

IN THE SPECIFICATION

Please replace the paragraph bridging pages 1 and 2 with the following rewritten paragraph:

Silicas with DBP absorption values of up to ~~380 g/110 g~~ 380 g/100 g are known as described in EP 0 078 909. In Example 1 of ~~the present application~~ EP 0 078 909, a silica with 380 g/100 g DBP absorption value is obtained by spray-drying a silica suspension containing 11% solids by weight. According to Example 5 of ~~the present invention~~ EP 0 078 909 a DBP absorption of 346 g/100 g is obtained by spray-drying a silica suspension containing 16% solid matter by weight.

Please replace the last full paragraph at page 6 with the following rewritten paragraph:

The solid of the suspension is removed by filtration in filter presses, washed and the resulting filter cake is liquefied under the effects of shearing. The solids content is 11.0%, the pH is 5. The silica suspension is then spray-dried. A DBP absorption value of ~~355 g/110 g~~ 355 g/100 g was determined for the product that was obtained in the above manner.